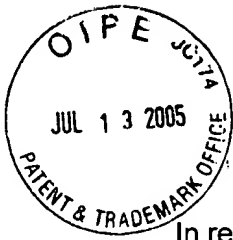


2700



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 02356.0011-06000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Marc ALIZON et al.) Group Art Unit: 1648
)
Application No. 09/041,975) Examiner: Jeffrey S. Parkin
)
RCE Filed: April 8, 2003) Confirmation No: 4167
)
For: VARIANT OF LAV VIRUSES)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Applicants received a Notice of Noncompliant Amendment on June 15, 2005, and believe that the Notice was issued in error. The Notice states that the currently amended claim fails to include marking, strikethrough for deleted text, and underlining for added text. Applicants, however, did underline the addition to claim 23, the only currently amended claim. Applicants added a prime symbol (') with underlining, and enclose a copy of page 2 of the Response filed on March 22, 2005, showing the addition and highlighting the change with a gray shaded box for the Examiner's convenience. Applicants request that the Examiner enter the amendment and withdraw the erroneously issued Notice.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 13, 2005

By: Rebecca McNeill
Rebecca M. McNeill
Reg. No. 43,796